



# LARC



Volume 49, Number 2

February 2009

## John Martin W5SE (KA5BSE) SK

by Herman Campbell KN5GRK

John Martin W5SE (formally KA5BSE) became a Silent Key on January 9, 2009 at 12:05 am after a long bout with cancer.

Some of you may not have had the pleasure to meet and know John Martin personally, but to those who did know him can realize how much a loss it is to our amateur radio community.

In my opinion, and I am sure that there are others who will agree with me, that John can be considered a "Professional Amateur Radio Operator", if there is such a title.

At this time I would like to tell you a little about John. John and Maureen KB5SMX married 45 years ago. They have a son, Johnny Jr. KC5OAK and a daughter Yvonne KC5QDY, three grandkids and 2 great grandkids ages 3 and 1. John also has a brother Tommy living in Georgia and a sister Nina Guidry living in Lafayette. As you can see, ham radio runs in the family.

When I upgraded to General Class license in 1996, I was looking for a HF rig to get on the air. I had spoken to John numerous times before I upgraded and he seemed a very knowledgeable person in all aspects of amateur radio although I did not know him very well at that time. Anyway, John asked that I give him a chance to check around before I went out and bought something. John was always on the "Trader's Nets" and after a few days found a nice starter station at a very reasonable price, so with John's approval, I purchased the complete station excluding antenna. John suggested that an "inverted V" on a push-up pole was the best way to go for the price and effort. I was not disappointed in any of his decisions. I find this story familiar to many of the new hams in the area.

John was always honest, fair, precise and used good judgment in everything he did or said. He did not beat around the bush, he told you like it was! When you had a problem concerning amateur radio you could always depend on John to help you out. He was considered to be "Johnny on the Spot". Ever since I have known John, he has participated in about every club event, his specialty was Field Day and our Hamfest. He helped with classes for new hams, helped set up ham stations in many of the hospitals and when they encountered problems, John was always there. John was also an Assistant Emergency Coordinator for Lafayette Parish and helped install and maintain the new equipment at the Parish Emergency Operations Center.

### *John is irreplaceable in my book!*

Others have expressed their condolences and how much John helped them in e-mails sent to me which I would like to pass on to you in this newsletter on the following pages....

(see page 2 column 2)



Another note about John is Dick's proposal for a monetary donation from the club. Danny, K5ARH raised a great point in that unfortunately for us, the club being a 501 (C)3 club, we're not allowed to donate our funds to non charitable organizations. I confirmed this with both an attorney and a CPA. However, that doesn't stop any of us organizing something (such as an account at a bank or something), and possibly holding a raffle at the hamfest. Perhaps this is a great opportunity to utilize the rotator that Weston has. We raffle that off at the hamfest, with all proceeds to go to John's family!

As I type this, I haven't heard the final word on Nick K5QXJ and the UL Balloon Team's launch today. I know they spotted it, but I didn't hear if they'd successfully retrieved it. Congrats to Nick and his team for a wonderful project that will further the next CAPE satellite launch!

The February meeting will have a few things to discuss. Most importantly the floor nominations are opened for all club officers. I will not be returning as President as I feel my time is up. I know that Randy has held his post for sometime as well, and is looking for an opportunity to enjoy the club as a "regular member" for a while. So please, if Herman or another member of the nominating committee approaches you before the meeting next week, consider accepting the position. If not, someone WILL be railroaded into it at the meeting because the positions must be filled. Don't complain about the club if you're unwilling to volunteer your time to govern it!

Roland's plans for the hamfest are coming along nicely. If you've spoken with Roland for a volunteer position, please confirm everything he needs you to do prior to March. I would also like to thank you for your volunteering and help in making this the best hamfest in the state.

73  
Charlie  
KI5XP

## President's Message

As I type this, several things come to mind about the past month. The most ominous one of course is John's passing.

I remember meeting John when I first received my license back in 1991. He worked offshore, so sometimes he made the meetings, sometimes he made the Lunch Bunch. One funny story was as I was fighting the wonderful Lafayette traffic, being my road-raged self, I think I

managed to curse out half of Lafayette on the way to BJ's Pizza. John came running out of BJ's as I pulled into the parking lot to tell me I'd sat on my mic the entire time, and my entire tirade from USL to BJ's had been shared with everyone on the 147.21 repeater. Red faced was the term used to describe my feelings as I walked into BJ's.

(continued next column)

**AARA  
MEETING  
February 5, 2009  
7:00 PM  
VE Testing @ 6:00 PM**

**DATES TO REMEMBER****REGULAR MEETING**

Thursday February 5<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 PM  
 Red Cross Building - 101 N. Pat St.  
 VE Testing @ 6:00 pm - Door Prizes - Refreshments

**HAMFEST SCHEDULE**

Orange Hamfest, Feb. 28. 2009  
 Rayne AARA Hamfest, March 13 & 14,  
 2009

**Local 2-Meter Nets****Sunday**

Opelousas Area ARA Net 7:00 PM  
 146.820 Lafayette, LA

**Monday**

AARA Net 7:00 PM  
 146.820 Lafayette, LA  
 Acadia Parish ARES Net 8:00 PM  
 147.240 pl 127.3 Crowley, LA

**Tuesday**

Acadiana ARES Net 7:00 PM  
 145.370 - 600 PL 103.5  
 YL/XYL / Filly Net 7:00 PM  
 146.820 Lafayette, LA

**Wednesday**

Vermillion Parish ARES Net 8:00 PM  
 147.060 Abbeville, LA

**Friday**

HEAL Net 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays Only 1:00 PM  
 146.820 Lafayette, LA

**AARA OFFICERS 2008-2009**

**President - Charlie Morrison KI5XP**  
**ki5xp@w5ddl.org**

**Vice Pres - Dick Melcher WA6MDI**

**Secretary - Randy Castille N5MLJ**

**Treasurer - Joy Breaux N5YCS**

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**Sandy LeBlanc KE5KJF**

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**Newsletter Editor**

**Herman Campbell KN5GRK**

The **LARC** is published monthly by the:  
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John was a good friend of mine. When I joined the Acadiana Amateur Radio Association in 2001, he welcomed me into the club, assisted me with my club projects and gave me encouragement when I became its club president. I found that John loved the ham radio hobby more than anyone I knew. Never do I remember that he would come to Rayne without stopping by to visit and drink coffee at my home, to talk about antennas, radios, dxing, contesting and NASCAR. John loved to work the DX. John and I would often call each other to work a new one found on the air.

I admired John for his energy and commitment in helping new and old timers alike with Elmer advice, teaching tech classes, working at the Children's Museum, putting up or down or repairing antennas and towers, collecting antenna and tower parts to distribute to needy hams or working on club projects (his favorite - ARRL Field Day). I believe he served the Acadiana Amateur Radio Association well in many club positions, including as a director and president.

Although he suffered with neck and back pain the last few years, I remember that it never kept him from participating in club projects or rendering help to others. Including his last project, when he recently constructed and purchased a tower and trailer for the AARA club use during emergencies and field day exercise. His loyalty to the AARA club was evident to me always. Recently conveyed his thoughts to me of running for AARA club president again, but illness finally made that impossible.

I enjoyed my last visit with John a few weeks ago at his home. There is so much that can be said about John, that my words here cannot state it all. I will miss him, as I know others will also. He was one of a kind.

73, John W5SE SK  
 Roland Guidry NA5Q

—0—

It is with great sadness that I learn about the passing of John. When I first got my ticket, John was there to provide guidance for the new ham. I can't think of a person who has never owned an antenna that John has made. His passing is truly a loss for the ham radio community. His level of dedication to the hobby and his club were absolute. I offer my sincere condolences to Maureena and family. It's going to take several people to even begin to fill the place that he has left within the local ham community.

Kris Wotipki KD5QYV

—0—

We are so very sorry to hear of John's passing. We only knew him a short time but he was always friendly and enjoyed amateur radio so much.

He will be dearly missed and our prayers are with his family.

Please relay our condolences to Maureena and her family.

Al N5WWS and Brenda KB5RSH Andrew

—0—

W5SE John was the epitome of ham radio, he was an ambassador for amateur radio, Louisiana and the USA, it was and is my pleasure to say I knew this wonderful guy who shared his knowledge and time to Elmer those lesser informed, a role model for all.....

Maureena, if I can help in anyway please let me know, I would be more than glad to assist.

Wayne Morton W5YNE

—0—

I have always appreciated John...His signal on the nets was extraordinary...He made the best double bazooka antennas that I have ever seen...Always laid back, easy going and available to help anyone with anything.

Thank you for the info and especially the prayer...It was beautiful...John would have been proud...Lord willing, I will be at the Rayne Fest..

73 Mack Redmond KA5JNL

—0—

When I first arrived in Acadiana in March of 2004, John was one of my first contacts. I remember that because when I showed up on the 146.82 repeater and asked for directions, he was the one person who I could count on for directions as well as details about the local area.

As my familiarity with the area grew, John would often offer comments, which enhanced my learning about culture of the local area. Add to this a willing attitude to help virtually anyone who showed up on any of the repeaters, a person who built antennas and sold them at cost to hams who may not have had the ability to fabricate them.

I also remember John as the one who directed me to the Burger King, where Stu Rohner WD5FDD (SK) and the rest morning "breakfast bunch" would gather to discuss all the world's problems and solutions.

I remember John as a guy who always wanted to help some one and asked for nothing in return, our "Go To Guy" when it came to ideas and accomplishing things.

Rest easy old buddy and may you enjoy your stay at the ham station in the sky

Dick Melcher WA6MDI

(continued page 3 column 1)

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The first time I met John was over at Glynn Langston's home. John, of course, was there working on Glynn's antennas. John had a knack for making antennas and making them work really well. I also worked with John organizing the ham club's Fai Do Do on Friday night. John always saw to it that we had the equipment we needed and always treated us with respect as did all of the rest of the club. John will be greatly missed by Pat and Myself.

"Laissez le Bon Temps Roule"

Roland Ledet K5EUO

—0—

I was floored when I read the e-mail this morning. Though I only met him a short time ago, it didn't take me long to realize that John was a great person--a very caring and honest man who went out of his way to help folks. John was very instrumental in helping the HAM radio operators at the local hospitals to get equipment up & running, get them acclimated to HAM radio and was willing to assist in any way to make their experience as a HAM radio operator and the HEAL Net a success. My love and deepest sympathy goes out to Maureena and the Martin family.

Rachel Wilson KE5KEZ

—0—

Herman, I first met John when I took my course and test 2 years ago. We became good friends and I learned a lot from him. He helped me build a J-pole and during Hurricane Gustav I needed to try and get a 2 meter set up at Our Lady of the Lake Hospital, and we went over the radio and made sure that the frequencies were there, we tested it at his house and I was good to go. He was a good friend and wouldn't say no to anybody, he will truly be missed. My prayers go out to Maureena and the family and friends.

Jerry McManus KE5KEG

—0—

I thought John was a great guy. He was always, always interested in the ham radio here at the Children's Museum of Acadia. He always went the extra distance you be informative and helpful. I even said one time that I was looking for Magnolia leaves and the next day I received a bag of Magnolia leaves. He paid attention to all details and was there to always add something.

Below is a list of all those who expressed their condolences to Maureena and Family via e-mail to Herman KN5GRK.

W5PUP—BETTY WHITECOTTON  
K5GLS—GARY STRATTON  
K5SEE—JOHN HOLLIMAN  
KD5NVC—GLENN BREAUX  
WA5TNK—ED ROY  
KE4GQE—DOUG ESPY  
ND5C—PATRICK SOILEAU

Even though we just met him, we will miss him. The museum will add his name to a memorial tile here at the building.

Marvita Hudson, Trustee  
Children's Museum of Acadia

—0—

Having had the honor of knowing John Martin for only 3 short years, I will never forget the first time I was introduced to him outside in the parking lot at the club meeting. We had a few things in common related to the old oilfield days, and you could tell just by talking to him that here was a good, kind, generous person. Well of course, that was correct.

I know there are a lot of things he has done for a lot of people, not only fellow hams that we don't have enough paper to print it on. One that will stay with me forever is the day I was visiting with him. He knew I am an avid fisherman. We were talking antennas and boats and fishing. As I was about to leave, he says wait a minute. He goes over to his little shop, and comes back with an antenna mount for my boat. I asked how much? He would not accept anything for that mount. So now every time I go fishing John is with me. He will be missed, but never forgotten.

Arnold LeMaire KE5JXC

—0—

I was saddened by the loss of John Martin, (KA5BSE).

I have had the pleasure of knowing John for years and enjoyed tapping his vast knowledge of antenna theory. He was a true "ELMER" and a friend, he will be truly missed by family, friends and the community he served.

Another "ELMER" Wiltz Hanks (K5ABD), while his Key may be silent, his memory is strong and will never fade from my heart. Mr. Wiltz, as I was a small boy and his neighbor at the time, introduced me to HAM radio and influenced me to explore a career in Communication Electronics in the military. Silent Key's are not so silent, when they have an impact on the people in their community, as their memories will last us a lifetime. Their unselfish acts of kindness, sharing their time and knowledge in the pursuit to better understand their craft. I am and always will be grateful for all what they have taught me.... Their memories will always be 5/5. With greatest Respect.

Chuck Davis

W5BLN—BONNIE NEAL  
KC5BLQ—NEIL SEDOTOL  
W5PY—MIKE KING  
WB5NJG—LEONARD FONTENOT  
KE5NIJ—DAVID ABLES  
KE5DJA—VIRGINIA BRYANT

## 49<sup>th</sup> AARA HAMFEST 2009 Rayne, Louisiana

The 49<sup>th</sup> Acadiana Hamfest sponsored by the Acadiana Amateur Radio Association, Inc. will be held on March 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>, 2009. The hamfest location is the same as in previous years, Rayne Civic Center, Rayne, Louisiana. Due to the success of our opening hours last year, we will continue opening the doors to the Hamfest on Friday from 5-8 p.m. and Saturday 8 a.m.-2 p.m. We will have a crawfish boil on Friday with a live Jam-fest delivering some great music and dancing for all to enjoy.

Many of our past year vendors will be present plus possibly a few new ones. We expect great attendance due to fact that we are back on our old hamfest schedule of the 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend in March. The AARA Hamfest website will be updated as soon as we receive crawfish cost and forum information.

*This hamfest is dedicated to the memory of John Martin W5SE who became a Silent Key on January 9<sup>th</sup> 2009.*

Make plans to attend now and watch for updates on our hamfest website:

<http://www.w5ddl.org/hamfest/>

You can also sign up to receive updated fliers via e-mail. Remember to pre-register and order your crawfish early.

Roland NA5Q  
AARA Hamfest Chairman



## This Month's Recipe

By Paul Coats AE5JU - Morgan City

Herman, you asked for recipes.

This is a recipe from my Mom, who dictated it to me. It has been in the family for, well, ever since I can remember. It is well over 120 years old, perhaps more.

This is from my Mom's grandfather. My mother's maiden name was Louviere, and was from Port Arthur, TX. Her parents lived there in Port Arthur, but were both originally from around Jeanerette and New Iberia area. Her mother was a Prevost.

I remember visiting that side of the family, up around Jeanerette, as a kid. There was an old great uncle that was blind, had goats he would hook up to a little 2 wheel goat cart, and the younger kids could sit in it and drive them around.

He was also the "crazy uncle" that tried to build an airplane back around the time of the Wright brothers. The family thought he was crazy and wouldn't let him fly it. There was still the wing sections in the barn, bare ribs, no covering. Mom took me out to the barn and showed me the remaining pieces of the plane he had built. Someone may know about that. That would have been in the early 1960's that we visited, and the old man died shortly after that.

This recipe came from my Mom's Grandfather Prevost who made it for his kids to make the meat go further. More than 100 year old recipe.

Anyway, this is an unusual recipe, only in the fact that I've never seen it made anywhere else. The ingredients are all pure Southern Louisiana.

Paul  
AE5JU  
Morgan City, LA

February 14, 2009



## February 2009 Special Events & Contests

Feb 7	W5NAC—6 <sup>th</sup> Annual Space Shuttle Columbia Recovery SE
Feb 7 & 8	10-10 Winter Phone QSO Party
Feb 7 & 8	NI8G—Celebrating Edison's Birthday, who was born in Milam, OH
Feb 8	North American Sprint Contest
Feb 12 & 13	K9L—Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial in Indiana
Feb 13 - 15	WB6RER—Memorial Event for Andy V. Devine (1905-1977)
Feb 14 & 15	Louisiana QSO Party
Feb 14	NI6IW—USS Midway (CV 41) Commemorating the establishment of Navy Operation Deep Freeze in Antarctica in 1955
Feb 15	North American Sprint Contest
Feb 20 – 23	W7G—George Washington Birthday from George, WA
Feb 21	ARRL DX Contest
Feb 28	High Speed CW Contest
Mar 1	North American QSO Party

Check out the February 2009 QST page 82 and 89 for a more detailed listing of Special Events and Contests.



2/03	JIM	N5NVP
2/04	WESTON	KB5WI
2/04	KEN	KD5YWB
2/14	N5RKK	TIM
2/16	KD5NVC	GLENN
2/17	KB5TWL	MITCH
2/23	KD5RKN	NILES
2/24	KD5JSM	DANNY
3/3	KC5MMG	ED

Some members failed to put their birthdays on their applications for renewal / membership applications, this is why some may not be on the list.

## Orange Hamfest 2009

Sponsored by the Orange ARC and Jefferson County ARC

**Date:** Saturday February 28, 2009

**Time:** 8:00 am to 3:00 pm

**Place:** VFW Hall, Hwy 87, 1 mile North of I-10

**Admission:** Free

**Talk-in:** 147.180 (pl turned off)

**VE Testing:** 10:00 am

**Grand Prizes:** Kenwood TS480 SAT & Kenwood TM271A. Tickets for door prizes and grand prizes are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00, 12 for \$10.00. Need not be present for grand prize but must be present for door prizes.

**Food available on site:**

Check out website for more info:  
<http://www.qsl.net/w5nd/>

**Time to get your  
2009—20010 Club dues  
to Mrs. Joy Breaux  
N 5 Y C S — A A R A  
Treasurer!**

**JANUARY 2009 ACADIANA AREA 2 METER NET REPORTS**

NET	SESSIONS:	TOTAL CHECK-INS:	TOTAL TRAFFIC:	TOTAL TIME: Minutes	Net Manager
OAARC Net - Opelousas Area Amateur Radio Club	4	92	0	55	N5LRZ Ray
AARA Monday Night Net	4	72	0	138	KN5GRK Herman
Acadiana ARES Net	4	22		58	N5LRZ Ray
Vermillion Parish ARES Net	4	25	0	50	KE5JXC Arnold
HEAL Net *(M=Medical G=Guest)	2	* 4 M / 7 G	0	22	KE5JKD Larry

Lagniappe . . . is something thrown in, gratis, for good measure.

--Mark Twain.

**EchoLink Demonstration**

On Thursday January 15, 2009 Nick Pugh K5QXJ along with Becky Ducet, Program Director of the Children's Museum of Acadiana gave a demonstration of how EchoLink works to a group of young students at Paul Breaux Middle School Science Club in Lafayette. Marie Annette Chapman was in charge of conducting the group sessions.

Using the 2 meter W5EXI-R in Lafayette, Nick connected up with stations in Wisconsin and Michigan.

Curt KU8L in Livonia, Michigan was the first EchoLink contact to talk to the students. He reported that the temperature was a  $-27^{\circ}$  with a chill factor of around  $-35^{\circ}$ , while the students were reporting a  $+41^{\circ}$  here in Lafayette. Curt gave a brief description of his amateur radio career and stated he is familiar with the Lafayette area as he traveled down this way last year with a band group.

The second EchoLink was Tom N9RPQ in Fond Du Lac, Wisconsin to chat with the students. Weather conditions info were also exchanged and a brief history of his ham radio career.

(continued on next column)

In between the group tours, Nick would explain the different aspects of ham radio and how science is now a big part using satellites and digital modes.

Local hams assisting Nick were: Mike KE5AWZ, Dick WA6MDI, and Herman KN5GRK.

Thanks to Nick, Becky and the students for taking time away from their regular duties to do this demonstration.

**Subject: ULL Balloon Flight**

Well, ballooners, this was quite the adventure....Liftoff from NOAA office in Lake Charles at about 8:39 CST this morning (Saturday Jan 31). Picked up a 120 mph jet-stream at around 40,000 feet over Crowley. GPS quit sending positions above 65,000 feet. The crew issued a cut down command somewhere over the Atchafalaya basin, and the descent began. Positions began to be received again when it reached lower altitude, and it got another ride from the jet-stream - east towards Donaldsonville.

The bottom line - the thing flew 140 miles, reached perhaps 90,000 feet altitude, and dropped down right, smack, dead center, mid-stream in the Mississippi about a mile or so upstream of the Sunshine

Bridge. We suspected a splashdown rather than a landing when we saw a few packets at 15 ft altitude, speed 2.3 mph, in a direction just exactly parallel with Ole Man River ! Sure enough, some sharp eyed ladies at the Motiva Corp. dock spotted it drifting along.

Thanks to the kindly assistance of the folks from Weber Marine's barge, Latanya, , who took their crew boat, MV Bad Bill, out and fished it out of the river, the gang from ULL got their payload back intact and complete, albeit soggy. As I write this they should be in the process of cleaning up and drying out the contents.

Map track of the last couple of miles attached, as well as a photo of the happy recovery crew.



Congratulations to the Ragin Cajuns. Any time the payload is recovered - that's success!

bravo zulu, sailors, well done!

73,

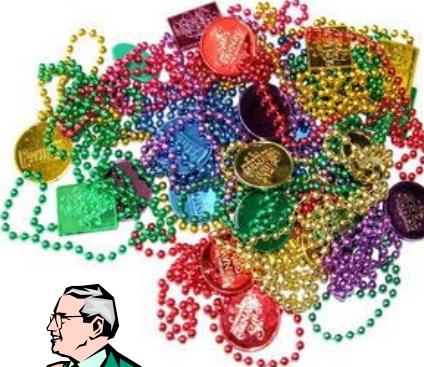
Jim, N5IB

More in March issue of LARC

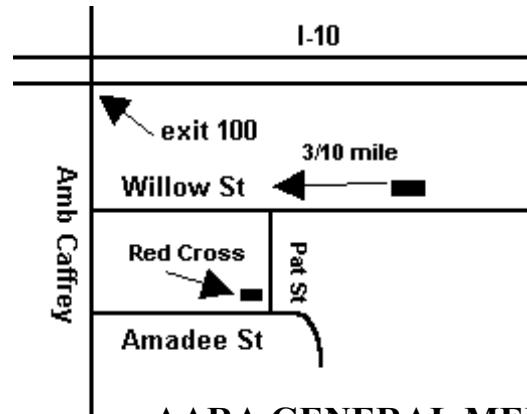
**Acadiana Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc.**  
**P. O. Box 51174**  
**Lafayette, LA 70505-1174**

Website: <http://www.w5ddl.org>

Mardi Gras - February 28



Amb Caffrey



Share the Fun - Bring a Friend to be a HAM !

**AARA GENERAL MEETING**  
**Thursday February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009—7:00 PM**  
**VE Testing at 6:00 PM**  
**Red Cross Building, 101 N. Pat St., Scott, LA**  
**Lunch Bunch**  
Golden Corral - Amb. Caffery - Lafayette, LA  
Check 146.820 - repeater for info.

COMPLEMENTARY  
ISSUE

**FCC LICENSE INFO SERVICE**

The FCC toll-free (WATS) number for Amateur Radio license inquiries - including inquiries about vanity and new call signs. The number, 888-225-5322, will connect callers to the FCC National Call Center, handled by the FCC's Consumer Information Bureau. Amateurs having ULS problems or questions should contact the FCC's ULS Technical Support staff at 202-414-1250 or [ulscomm@fcc.gov](mailto:ulscomm@fcc.gov). Web site:

<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>

New callsign information can also be obtained from the ARRL/VEC at 860-594-3000.

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec>

The mailing address to the FCC is: Federal Communications Commission, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg PA 17325-7245



**Chicken, Pork & Oyster Pie**

Submitted by Paul Coats AE5JU, Morgan City, LA

1 1/2 pounds pork roast cut into cubes no larger than 1 inch	5 to 6 green onions
1 1/2 pounds chicken breasts cut into cubes no larger than 1 inch	parsley
1 cup finely chopped onion	salt and pepper to taste or Tony's*
	1 pint oysters, well washed and chopped into small pieces

(makes 3 pies or one big pan)

Make a roux and brown chicken and pork. Add 1 1/2 cups of water and then seasoning. Cook at a slow simmer until very thick (up to 1 1/2 hours).

Add oysters and pour into 3 pie shells and cover with top crust. You may want to cut a few slits in the top crust, as you would an apple pie.

Bake at 350 degrees 45-60 minutes. Can also be made in one very large pan, double crust.

\*Tony Chacherie's Seasoning... a mix of salt, pepper, red pepper, and various other seasonings. This is not heavily applied, and the Chicken, Pork, and Oyster Pie is not at all "pepper hot".

See more details of this recipe on page 4 of this newsletter.

Send your favorite recipe to:  
Herman KN5GRK  
[kn5grk@bellsouth.net](mailto:kn5grk@bellsouth.net)

